

CLAIMS

Claim 1. A multi-purpose blanket comprising:

a flexible planar body of substantially rectangular form having a top edge, a bottom edge which is substantially parallel to the top edge and two opposite and parallel side edges which are substantially perpendicular to and extend between the top and bottom edges, and defining an inner surface and an outer surface, the planar body adapted to be folded into a relatively compact folded condition for use as a seat cushion or spread into a spread condition for use as a blanket or for use as a protective covering which can be draped about the user so that the inner surface surrounds and faces the torso of the user;

a hood compartment-forming member which is joined to the flexible planar body against the inner surface thereof so as to provide a hood compartment having an opening which is disposed adjacent the top edge of the planar body and which is positioned about midway along the length of the top edge;

a hood having a portion which is positioned within the opening of the hood compartment and which is secured to the inner surface of the planar body adjacent the top edge thereof so that the hood can be selectively tucked within the hood compartment for storage or withdrawn from the hood compartment for use;

a pair of pockets associated with the inner surface of

the planar body and disposed adjacent the side edges thereof so that when the planar body is draped about the user so that the inner surface surrounds and faces the torso of the user, the pockets can accept the hands of the user, the pockets being disposed at an angle with respect to the side edges of the planar body so that when the planar body is draped about the user so that the inner surface surrounds and faces the torso of the user, each pocket opens inwardly of the side edges of the blanket, and the pockets are spaced from the top edge of the planar body by at least about eighteen inches;

an elongated storage pouch joined to the outer surface of the planar body adjacent the top edge thereof so that when the planar body is folded into a folded condition for use as a seat cushion, the storage pouch is accessible;

at least one strap which is joined to the planar body for securing the planar body in its folded condition; and

a handle which is secured to the planar body across the storage pouch for providing a grip with which the planar body can be carried when the planar body is secured in its folded condition.

Claim 2. The blanket as defined in Claim 1 further including means for releasably securing the planar body about the user when the planar body is draped about the user.

Claim 3. The blanket as defined in Claim 2 wherein the means

for releasably securing includes snap fasteners having mating members which are attached to the planar body along the top edge thereof so that when the planar body is draped about the user so that the inner surface surrounds the torso of the user, the mating members can be snapped together to releasably secure the planar body about the shoulders of the user.

Claim 4. The blanket as defined in Claim 1 wherein the hood compartment-forming member and further includes a zipper for selectively opening and closing the hood compartment opening.

Claim 5. The blanket as defined in Claim 1 wherein the planar body includes one material piece which provides the inner surface of the planar body and another material piece which provides the outer surface of the planar body.

Claim 6. The blanket as defined in Claim 5 wherein the another piece of material is comprised of a water-repellant material.

Claim 7. The blanket as defined in Claim 5 further including a third layer of material which is sandwiched between the one and the another material pieces.

Claim 8. The blanket as defined in Claim 1 wherein the elongated storage pouch is substantially rectangular in form so as to define four edges, and the pouch is sewn to the outer

surface of the planar body along only two of the opposite ones of its four edges to accommodate expansion of the pouch.

Claim 9. The blanket as defined in Claim 1 wherein the pouch has an opening which is oriented substantially parallel to the side edges of the planar body, and the pouch further includes a zipper for selectively opening and closing the pouch opening.

Claim 10. The blanket as defined in Claim 1 wherein the planar portion defines a pair of closeable through-openings disposed adjacent the pockets through which a user's hands and arms can extend when the blanket is draped about the user.

Claim 11. A multi-purpose blanket which can be selectively positioned across the lap of or wrapped about a user for protection against the weather or used as a seat cushion, the blanket comprising:

a flexible planar rectangular body having a top edge, a pair of opposite and parallel side edges which extend downwardly from the top edge, and a bottom edge which is parallel to the top edge and which extends between the two side edges, and the planar body defines an inner surface and an outer surface and is adapted to be selectively placed in a spread condition for use as a blanket or as a protective covering which can be wrapped about the user for protection against the weather as the inner surface surrounds and faces the torso of the user

or folded into a relatively compact folded condition for use as a seat cushion;

a semi-circular piece of material which is joined to the inner surface of the planar body adjacent the top edge thereof at a location situated substantially midway between the side edges thereof so that the semi-circular piece of material forms with the inner surface a hood compartment having an opening which extends along and is disposed adjacent the top edge thereof;

a hood having a portion which is positioned within the hood compartment and which is secured to the inner surface of the planar body adjacent the top edge thereof so that the hood can be selectively tucked within the hood compartment for storage or withdrawn from the hood compartment for use;

a pair of pocket-forming pieces which are joined to the inner surface of the planar body and adjacent the side edges thereof to form a pair of pockets thereat so that when the planar body is wrapped around the user for protection against the weather so that the inner surface surrounds and faces the torso of the user, the pockets can accept the hands of the user, the pockets being disposed at an angle of between about twenty and thirty degrees with respect to the side edges of the planar body so that each pocket opens inwardly of the side edges of the blanket, and the pockets being spaced from the top edge of the planar body by at least about eighteen inches;

an elongated storage pouch joined to the outer surface

of the planar body adjacent the top edge thereof so that when the planar body is folded into a folded condition for use as a seat cushion, the storage pouch is accessible;

at least one strap which is joined to the planar body for securing the planar body in its folded condition; and

a handle which is secured to the planar body across the storage pouch for providing a grip with which the planar body can be carried when the planar body is secured in its folded condition.

Claim 12. The blanket as defined in Claim 11 further including means for releasably securing the planar body about the user when the planar body is draped about the user.

Claim 13. The blanket as defined in Claim 12 wherein the means for releasably securing includes snap fasteners having mating members which are attached to the planar body along the top edge thereof so that when the planar body is draped about the user so that the inner surface surrounds the torso of the user, the mating members can be snapped together to releasably secure the planar body about the shoulders of the user.

Claim 14. The blanket as defined in Claim 11 wherein the hood compartment-forming member further includes a zipper for selectively opening and closing the hood compartment opening.

Claim 15. The blanket as defined in Claim 11 wherein the planar body includes one material piece which provides the inner surface of the planar body and another material piece which provides the outer surface of the planar body.

Claim 16. The blanket as defined in Claim 15 wherein the another piece of material is comprised of a water-repellant material.

Claim 17. The blanket as defined in Claim 11 wherein the elongated storage pouch is substantially rectangular in form so as to define four edges, and the pouch is sewn to the outer surface of the planar body along only two of the opposite ones of its four edges to accommodate expansion of the pouch.

Claim 18. The blanket as defined in Claim 11 wherein the pouch has an opening which is oriented substantially parallel to the side edges of the planar body, and the pouch further includes a zipper for selectively opening and closing the pouch opening.

Claim 19. The blanket as defined in Claim 11 wherein the planar portion defines a pair of closeable through-openings disposed adjacent the pockets through which a user's hands and arms can extend when the planar body is wrapped around the user for protection against the weather.

Claim 20. The blanket as defined in Claim 19 further including a pair of flaps attached to the outer surface of the planar body for covering the through-openings and thereby preventing the passage of water therethrough from the outer surface of the planar body.